



MEMORANDUM

Date: May 25, 2001

TO: California Transportation Commission

SUB: Status Report on the Guadalupe Corridor Ticket Vending Machines

BACKGROUND

The California Transportation Commission (CTC) allocated \$740,000 in TCI funds on December 19, 1997 for the acquisition and installation of 86 new ticket vending machines on the original 22-mile Guadalupe Light Rail System. The Guadalupe TVM project was part of a larger \$7,400,000 TVM procurement and installation package for other light rail systems that included the Tasman West, Tasman East, Vasona and Capitol lines.

This replacement of original Guadalupe TVM equipment which is now over 10-years old is necessary in order to achieve a systemwide compatibility of fare collection equipment on all VTA light rail transit lines.

REASONS FOR EXTENSION

On February 5, 1998, VTA awarded a procurement and installation contract to VenTek International, a California firm based in Petaluma, California. The first delivery of VenTek TVMs were installed on the new Tasman West line which went into revenue service in December 1999. Thirty one TVMs were installed by February 2000. Subsequent to the Tasman installation, the TVMs were subjected to "punch-list" corrections and also Reliability Demonstration Testing during revenue service operations in accordance with contract requirements to prove defined levels of reliability.

Technical difficulties occurred in the development, manufacturing and installation of TVMs on the Tasman West Line. Delays in delivery of the equipment was also an issue. Additionally within the past year, VenTek International successfully concluded a major reorganization of its internal management structure

The second in a series of TVMs were installed on the new 2-mile segment of the Tasman East Light Rail line in early 2001.

VenTek and VTA completed the 90-day Reliability Demonstration Testing on the Tasman East line from North First Street to Interstate 880 prior to its opening for revenue service on May 17 of this year. The VenTek TVMs successfully passed the specified reliability performance testing. Based on this, manufacturing of the TVMs incorporating the "punch-list" corrections and reliability improvements are now in progress for the 86 new Guadalupe TVMs. Under the revised schedule, VTA expects to complete the installation of the Guadalupe TVMs before the end of 2001.

Although VTA and VenTek staffs worked diligently over the past three years, to resolve the certain technical problems in the most expeditious manner, it became certain by early 2001, that the original schedule set for the delivery, installation and testing of VenTek equipment could not be met, and that an extension on the TCI funding and completion of the project would be necessary. Under the original contract, the completion deadline was March 26, 2001.

A one-time, 20 month extension to September 30, 2002 was requested and approved by the CTC on March 28, 2001, with the proviso that VTA present a status report to the Commission at its June meeting in San Jose.

STATUS OF GUADALUPE TVMs

Despite the early on delays and technical difficulties experienced with the VenTek TVMs, VTA is pleased to report to the Commission that VenTek International and VTA will successfully complete the Guadalupe TVM contract. As indicated earlier, VTA expects the contractor to complete the installation of the TVMs within the period provided by the time extension.

VTA is confident that the rail transit riders in Santa Clara County will soon enjoy the benefits of the technologically advanced TVM equipment which is compliant with American Disabilities Act guidelines and developed and manufactured by a U.S. company based in California.